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I hereby certify that the attached papers and/or fee are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service on the date shown below in an envelope addressed to: Box Patent Application, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington DC 20231.

June 8, 2000  
(Date)

Mary Rutkowski  
(Printed Name)

Mary Rutkowski  
(Signature)

**PATENT APPLICATION**  
PPD 50288/UST

**IN THE UNITED STATES ELECTED OFFICE**

**INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.:** PCT/GB98/03687

**INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE:** 10 December 1998

**PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED:** 11 December 1997

**APPLICANTS:** Ian JEPSON *et al.*

**TITLE:** GENETIC METHOD

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Box PCT  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to assigning a serial number and calculating the filing fee, please ~~amend~~ the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Claim 4, line 1, delete "any one of the preceding claims" and substitute therefor  
--claim 1--.

Claim 7, line 1, delete "any one of the preceding claims" and substitute therefor  
--claim 1--.

Claim 9, line 1, delete "or claim 8".

Claim 15, line 1, delete "any one of claims 11 to 14" and substitute therefor  
--claim 11--.

Claim 16, lines 1 and 2, delete "any one of claims 11 to 15" and substitute therefor  
--claim 11--.

Cancel claim 17 without prejudice.

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